

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
AID-05 EB-08 /092 W
-----061617 311722Z /43

O R 311610Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1290
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IMMEDIATE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
EUCOM
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 2435

DEPT PLEASE PASS PRESIDENT'S PARTY FOR SECRETARY VANCE
LONDON/BONN PLEASE PASS DEPSEC CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY
USDOCOSOUTH FOR AMBASSADOR SPIERS

USINFO FOR IOP/M IPS/PE, IBS/PN, IEU

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, TU, US, OTRA (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)
SUBJECT: ECEVIT DISCUSSES CHRISTOPHER MISSION IN MARCH 31
PRESS CONFERENCE

1. ON MARCH 31 FOLLOWING HIS WEEKLY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK, PRIMIN ECEVIT BRIEFED THE PRESS ON HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS. THE FIRST PART OF HIS LONG STATEMENT COVERING MANY TOPICS DEALT WITH THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPSECSTATE CHRISTOPHER. ECEVIT'S REMARKS ON TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND HIS RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED BY REPORTERS ON THIS SUBJECT FOLLOW:

BEGIN TEXT: (EMBASSY TRANSLATION)

AS YOU KNOW, IN MY WEEKLY BRIEFING TODAY WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK, I GAVE HIM INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS OF THE WEEK AND PARTICULARLY ON THE TALKS HELD WITH THE AMERICAN DELEGATION WHICH VISITED OUR COUNTRY. AS WAS NOTED IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT, THE DELEGATION WHICH CAME TO ANKARA UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER, BROUGHT A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO ME AND ALSO SOME PROPOSALS COVERING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. AS IS KNOWN, WE HELD DETAILED TALKS WITH THE DELEGATION FOR ONE DAY ON THE MESSAGE AND THE PROPOSALS.

I CAN SUMMARIZE THE GENERAL IMPRESSION I HAD FROM PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE AND FROM THE PROPOSALS. AS IS KNOWN, AFTER OUR GOVERNMENT WAS FORMED, SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE IMMEDIATELY CAME TO OUR COUNTRY AT OUR INVITATION. IN THE TALKS WE HELD WITH HIM ON THIS OCCASION, WE EXPLAINED TO HIM THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S NEW APPROACH TO TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND EXPRESSED OUR THOUGHTS AND PROPOSALS ON HOW TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS COULD BE REARRANGED IN A HEALTHY UNCLASSIFIED

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MANNER WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS NEW APPROACH.

THE MESSAGE AND PROPOSALS SENT BY PRESIDENT CARTER SEEM TO BE ALONG THE SAME LINES IN GENERAL, AS THE APPROACH OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. THE PROPOSALS MADE BY PRESIDENT CARTER ARE IN THE SAME FRAMEWORK AS OUR PROPOSALS. CONSEQUENTLY, I CONSIDER MYSELF IN A POSITION TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT WE HAVE ARRIVED AT A POSITIVE AND HOPEFUL STAGE WITH RESPECT TO OUR RELATIONS' REACHING AN UNOBSTRUCTED LEVEL. NATURALLY, OUR OPINIONS IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN DETAILS WILL BE CONVEYED IN THE SHORTEST TIME TO PRESIDENT CARTER, WHO IS PRESENTLY ON A TOUR, AND HIS VIEWS IN CONNECTION WITH OUR OPINIONS WILL BE DETERMINED. AT THAT TIME I SHALL BE ABLE TO GIVE MORE DETAILED AND CLEARER INFORMATION TO THE TURKISH PUBLIC.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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EUCOM
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DEPT PLEASE PASS PRESIDENT'S PARTY FOR SECRETARY VANCE
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THE STATEMENT WE ARE GOING TO MAKE AT THIS STAGE DEPENDS
ON THE CONCURRENCE OF BOTH PARTIES. FOR THIS REASON I AM
UNABLE TO GO INTO DETAILS, BUT AS I SAID, OUR TALKS WERE FRIENDLY,

CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS, AND THERE ARE SIGNS -- STRONG AND HOPEFUL
SIGNS -- THAT THE RELATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN GOING LAME FOR
SOME TIME ARE ON THE ROAD TO IMPROVEMENT.

QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT THE PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS WILL BE
ANNOUNCED BEFORE APRIL 6? WAS THERE ANY DISCUSSION ON THIS
POINT?

ANSWER: ACCORDING TO WHAT WE KNOW NOW, IT IS WALDHEIM'S
INTENTION TO HAVE THE TALKS BEGIN, RESUME DURING THE SECOND
HALF OF APRIL. THIS IS OUR LATEST INFORMATION. I THINK
THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION MAY BE ABLE TO
ANNOUNCE ITS PROPOSALS AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

QUESTION: THERE ARE REPORTS THAT IF THE ARMS EMBARGO IS NOT
LIFTED, THE UNITED STATES WILL USE OTHER CHANNELS TO GIVE
ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID TO TURKEY. IS THIS TRUE?

ANSWER: IN MY OPINION, WE HAVE REACHED A STAGE AT WHICH THIS
KIND OF REPORT SHOULD NOT BE DWELLED UPON. IN ANY CASE, IF
TURKEY'S MILITARY REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT MET WITHIN THE ALLIANCE,
I HAVE ALREADY SAID THAT WE ARE DETERMINED TO MEET THESE
REQUIREMENTS. BUT AT THE PRESENT TIME, WE ARE AT A HOPEFUL
STAGE. I DON'T FIND IT APPROPRIATE TO DELIBERATE ON DIFFERENT
POSSIBILITIES AT THIS TIME, ESPECIALLY ON NEGATIVE POSSIBILITIES.

QUESTION: DID A SUGGESTION OR MESSAGE COME FROM NATO ON THIS
SUBJECT?

ANSWER: NO, THEY HAD NO MESSAGE ON THIS SUBJECT.
DILLON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, VISITS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA02435
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780140-0472
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978036/aaaaaecw.tel
Line Count: 203
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 24e2a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3304461
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECEVIT DISCUSSES CHRISTOPHER MISSION IN MARCH 31 PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PEPR, OTRA, TU, US, (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN), (ECEVIT, BULENT)
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/24e2a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014